

New Railway Guest Houses/Yatri Niwases

2299. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the newly constructed railway guest-houses /yatri niwases during the last two years;
- (b) the names of States and places; and
- (c) the cost of construction of each, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Nil.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Financial Mess in Railways

2300. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways plans to tackle their financial mess and have identified several non-traditional sources of income, in order to have growth rate of 8 per cent till its core business flourishes;
- (b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and
- (c) by when these sources of income would be tapped in order to make the Railways viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) In order to meet investment needs to ensure growth, Railways have relied on (i) internal generation of resources, (ii) Budgetary support and (iii) market borrowing including the Own Your Wagon Scheme and (iv) Commercial borrowing through Indian Railway Finance Corporation. To supplement these sources of funds, it is proposed to generate revenue from other non-traditional sources viz. (a) commercial utilisation of railway land and air space (b) commercial publicity and (c) commercial utilisation of right of way by laying optical fibre cable network.

Commercial utilisation of land envisages identification of certain station buildings and vacant plots in prime areas for development as